GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2088
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2008
ASIAN GAS GRID
Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal of Asian Gas Grid;

(b) if so, the details including the countries associated with it and the pipeline that would cover India as a part of the proposal; and

(c) the present status of the proposal and the envisaged period of completion of the above project?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) to (c): The idea of an "Asian Gas Grid" linking the natural gas producing countries in North and Central Asia and Gulf with the consuming countries in Asia was first proposed by the then Minister (P&NG) at the Third Asian Gas Buyers' Summit in New Delhi on February 14-15, 2005. A presentation on the subject was made by a private international energy consultancy organization at the Ministerial Round Table of North and Central Asian Oil Producers with Principal Asian Consumers in New Delhi on November 25, 2005.The proposal envisaged setting up of a series of transnational gas pipelines linking Asian producing and consuming countries to form an "Asian Gas Grid". As per the presentation, 22,000 km of additional pipelines would have to be laid in Asia, costing about US $22 billion.

Though the Government is pursuing import of natural gas from Iran and Turkmenistan through transnational pipelines, there is no concrete proposal pertaining to the Asian Gas Grid before the Government at present.